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In response to the Restriction Requirement Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I (i.e., Claims 1-31 and Claims 70-76).

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the non-elected subject matter in appropriately filed divisional applications.

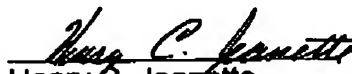
The Examiner is asked to reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement even though the inventions are distinct from each other, because the processes and intermediate compounds are related to the process in Group I, and MPEP § 803 (August 2001) states that:

"If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions."

The Examiner is also asked to reconsider and withdraw the Restriction Requirement because to do a thorough search for the claimed process in Group I, a search of the processes making intermediate compounds (Groups II to VI) and a search of the intermediate compounds (Groups III, IV and VII) should also be made.

For Example, Group II is directed to a process for making an intermediate that is made in Steps (a) to (d) in Claim 1 (Group I). Group III is directed to a process for making intermediates that are made in Steps (d) to (k) in Claim 1 (Group I). Group IV is directed to a process for making an intermediate that is made in Step (a) in Claim 1 (Group I), and in Step (a) in Claim 32 (Group II). Group V is directed to a process for making an intermediate that is made in Steps (a) to (c) in Claim 1 (Group I), and said intermediate in Group V is made from the intermediate made in Claim 55 (Group IV). Group VIII is directed to an intermediate formed in the process covered in Group I.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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